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LEE ELMER E 09/29/82 071924 PRINTER: LI
82 SAN SALVADOR 1514
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ACTION ARA-13
INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 SS-10 CIAE-00 H-01
NSC-01 NSAE-00 SY-05 HA-06 L-03 IRSE-00 PM-09
PA-02 MCT-02 SAI-01 ICAE-02 SP-02 SPRS-02 077 A
------------------336631 241726Z /53
R 241349Z FEB 82
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8097
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN
DIA WASHDC
UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SAN SALVADOR 1514
E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ES
SUBJECT: VIOLENCE WEEK IN REVIEW FEBRUARY 13-19
1. SUMMARY. VIOLENCE IN EL SALVADOR CONTINUED LAST WEEK WITH AN APPROXIMATE 68 PERSONS FALLING VICTIM TO POLITICAL MURDER. IN ADDITION, PRESS REPORTS OF COMBAT RECORDED THE DEATHS OF 11 SOLDIERS AND 28 GUERRILLAS. GUERRILLA ATTACKS APPEARED TO CONCENTRATE ON IMPEDING THE FLOW OF PEOPLE ABOUT THE COUNTRY. SEVERAL DIRECT AND INDIRECT ATTACKS ON THE ELECTORAL PROCESS WERE EVIDENT. THE RECORDS OF ONE TOWN HALL WERE DESTROYED, MORE BUSES WERE BURNED, ANOTHER POLITICAL LEADER WAS THE VICTIM OF A DEATH THREAT, AND REPORTS CIRCULATED OF GUERRILLAS DISTRIBUTING LEAFLETS AGAINST THE ELECTIONS AND THREATENING PARTICIPANTS WITH DEATH. END SUMMARY.
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2. DEATH AND DISAPPEARANCES.
POLITICAL VIOLENCE CLAIMED AN APPROXIMATE TOTAL OF 68 VICTIMS LAST WEEK. OF THESE, FOUR WERE BELIEVED KILLED BY LEFTIST TERRORISTS. THE REMAINING 64 VICTIMS MET DEATH AT THE HANDS OF UNKNOWN ASSASSINS FOR UNKNOWN REASONS. IN ADDITION TO THOSE KILLED, A TOTAL OF THREE PERSONS WERE REPORTED DISAPPEARED. NO RESPONSIBILITY COULD BE FIXED FOR THE DISAPPEARANCES. FINALLY, INCOMPLETE AND UNCONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS INDICATED THAT AT LEAST 11 SOLDIERS HAD DIED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND THAT 28 TERRORISTS WERE KILLED AS A RESULT OF AN ARMY SWEEP THROUGH CUSCULTAN DEPARTMENT.
3. SOME STATISTICS.
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY FS DATE 10/29/82
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
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ENDORSE EXCISING EXEMPTIONS ☐
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THE BODIES OF THE 68 VICTIMS OF POLITICAL MURDER WERE
DISCOVERED IN THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS:

SAN TA ANA	19
SAN SALVADOR (CITY)	19
SAN SALVADOR (DEPARTMENT)	1
CHALATENANGO	3
LA LIBERTAL	10
SAN VICENTE	4
SAN MIGUEL	4
USULUTAN	3
CUSCATLAN	1
TOTAL	68

AN AGE BREAKDOWN OF THE DEAD YIELDS THE FOLLOWING IN-
FORMATION:

A. AGES 17 AND UNDER	2
B. AGES 18-25	14
C. AGES 26-35	10

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D. AGES 36-50	10
E. AGES 51 AND OVER	8
F. UNKNOWN	25
TOTAL	68

A BREAKDOWN BY OCCUPATION PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING
STATISTICS:

LABORER	3
EMPLOYEES	5
DOCTOR	1
NURSE	1
SERVANT	1
OFF-DUTY SOLDIER	1
RETIRED SOLDIERS	2
DRIVERS	2
CAMPESINOS	4
PATRULLEROS	5
FARMERS	3
MERCHANT	1
MASON	1
STUDENTS	2
UNKNOWN	35
TOTAL	68

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ACTION ARA-16
INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-27 INR-10 SS-10 CIAE-00 H-01
NSC-01 NSAE-00 SY-05 HA-06 L-03 TRSE-00 PM 09
PA-02 VCT-02 SAL-01 ICAE-00 SP-02 SPRS-02 077 W
-----------336347 241732Z /53
R 241349Z FEB 82
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8098
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
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4. INCIDENTS.
PRESS REPORTS INDICATED THAT GUERRILLA ACTIVITY LAST WEEK DIFFERED NOTABLY FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS. AMBUSHES OF GOVERNMENT MILITARY POSTS AND CONVOYS WERE AT A MINIMUM. ATTENTION APPEARED TO BE FOCUSED ON ATTEMPTS TO IMPEDE THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE ABOUT THE COUNTRY. IN THIS REGARD AT LEAST EIGHT BUSES WERE BURNED, A NUMBER OF HIGHWAYS WERE TRENCHED, AND THERE WERE NUMEROUS CASES OF TRAFFIC BEING STOPPED ON PRINCIPAL HIGHWAYS. IN SAN SALVADOR, TWO RADIO STATIONS WERE SEIZED ON FEBRUARY 13, WHILE THE GUERRILLA STATION RADIO VENCEREMOS BOASTED OF THE EXECUTION OF THREE ALLEGED MEMBERS OF THE DEATH SQUAD IN WESTERN EL SALVADOR. RADIO VENCEREMOS ALSO ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF THE FIRST "PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT" IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY. IN APOPA, NORTH OF THE CAPITAL, GUERRILLAS SEIZED THE TOWN HALL AND PROCEEDED TO BURN THE
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CIVIL RECORDS.
5. THREATS AGAINST THE ELECTIONS.
LEFTIST ACTIVITY AGAINST THE EVOLVING ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN TOOK SEVERAL FORMS. THE CONTINUED BURNING OF BUSES THREATENS THE INTEGRITY OF THE COUNTRY'S CHIEF MEANS OF TRANSPORT, AND COULD CURTAIL THE ABILITY OF VOTERS TO GET TO THE POLLS. THE ATTACK ON THE TOWN HALL OF APOPA WAS A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO HALT THE ISSUANCE OF IDENTITY CEDULAS FOR ELECTION DAY; DISTRIBUTION OF THE DOCUMENTS WAS EFFECTIVELY HALTED BY THE DESTRUCTION. ADDITIONAL PRESS REPORTS SPOKE OF LEFTISTS THREATENING THE CITIZENS OF SAN AGUSTIN, USULUTAN WITH DEATH IF

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THEY VOTE, AS WELL AS THE PLACEMENT OF ANTI-ELECTION
EMAL LEAFLETS ON BUSES NEAR ILO[illegible]CO, CABANAS. ONE
POLITICAL LEADER, ERNESTO OYARZ[illegible]E THE PARTIDO DE
ACCION RENOVADORA, ANNOUNCED TH[illegible] HAD RECEIVED AN
OSTENSIBLE FPL DEATH THREAT, THO[illegible] HE SAID HE DOUBTED
ITS AUTHENTICITY.
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